CESAR CHAVEZ
President, United Farm Workers of America, AFL-CIO

IN SOUTHERN CONN. WEDNESDAY JULY 31 1974

DEMONSTRATION
5:30 PM
U.S. RT. 1
ORANGE

RALLY 8:00 PM ST. MARY'S HALL
PEMBROKE ST. BRIDGEPORT

STOP THE GRAPES

FOR RILES, OR MORE INFORMATION, CALL 366-5685 OR 333-2320
CESAR CHAVEZ, PRESIDENTE DE LA UNIÓN DE TRABAJADORES CAMPESINOS, Y PARTIDARIO DE LA JUSTICIA, SIN VIOLENCIA, EN LA SOCIEDAD AMERICANA, ESTARÁ EN BRIDGEPORT EL MIERCOLES, 31 JULIO, PARA SOLICITAR APOYO PARA EL BOICOT NACIONAL DE UVAS, LECHEGA, Y EL VINO GALLO.

EL MIERCOLES, 31 DE JULIO, A LAS 8 PM, CESAR VA A DIRIGIRSE AL PÚBLICO EN LA IGLESIA DE STA. MARÍA, 540 CALLE PEMBROKE, BRIDGEPORT. TODOS ESTAN INVITADOS A ESTA ASAMBLEA. (CUALQUIER DONACIÓN SERÁ PARA EL FONDO DE LA HUELGA DE LOS TRABAJADORES CAMPESINOS.)

PARA MÁS INFORMACIÓN SOBRE ESTA ACTIVIDAD PUEDE LLAMAR AL 366-5685 O 333-2320, OFICINA LOCAL DE LOS TRABAJADORES CAMPESINOS.

La Unión de Trabajadores Campesinos, bajo el liderazgo de Cesar Chavez, esta determinada a conseguir Justicia, Llididad, condiciones humanas y decentes de trabajo, para miles de campesinos a través de nuestra nación.

Nuestra posición es muy clara: los trabajadores campesinos quieren derecho a un salario adecuado, seguridad en el trabajo, condiciones decentes de trabajo, y DIGNIDAD dentro del ambiente que los rodea para poder levantar sus familias. Al presente, el salario medido anual para campesinos es menos de $2700. Al presente, 800,000 niños menores de 16 años trabajan en los campos!
FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE ............ 19 JULY 1974

CONTACT: STEPHEN M. RIVERS

CESAR CHAVEZ COMING TO CONNECTICUT

Bridgeport — Cesar E. Chavez, President of the United Farm Workers of America, AFL-CIO, will come to Connecticut at the end of the month as part of a New England tour to build support for the consumer boycott of California table grapes, iceberg lettuce, and Gallo wines.

On Wednesday, July 31, Chavez will lead a demonstration at the A&P supermarket on U.S. Rt. 1 in Orange. A&P is being singled out, according to UFW staff members Stephen Rivers, "Because they are the only major chain in the state that refuses to help the farmworkers, even when other A&P Divisions across the country have decided to refrain from selling non-union produce." The demonstration, which will be held at 5:30 P.M., will include supporters from the New Haven-Bridgeport area, and is being sponsored by area labor and religious organizations.

At 7:00 P.M. that evening, Chavez will attend Mass at Saint Mary's Roman Catholic Church, 540 Penbrooke Street, in Bridgeport's East Side. Following Mass, Chavez will address a Rally in the Church Hall and show a film of Teamster and Police violence done to UFW strikers last summer in the grape fields of California. The Rally will begin at 8:00 P.M., and is open to the public.

On Thursday August 1, Chavez will be the guest of honor at a luncheon at Quinnipiac College in Hamden. The luncheon, which will be hosted by Bishop Joseph F. Donnelly of New Haven, will be attended by leaders of the religious community and the labor movement in the state of Connecticut.

Stephen Rivers, Southern Connecticut Co-ordinator for the United Farm Workers, explained why Chavez is coming to New England: "Cesar is coming for several reasons: First, he is coming to spread the message to consumers to boycott grapes, lettuce and Gallo until the farmworkers win that basic right - the right to union representation. He is also coming to help raise money to feed the striking workers. The point of Cesar's message will be: Farmworkers are fighting the powerful forces in the world - both political and economic. By themselves, they are powerless. But with the active support of millions of people who are concerned about justice, they will be able to win the fight for the same rights and privileges that all other workers in this country already enjoy."
BACKGROUND INFORMATION: BIOGRAPHICAL SKETCH: CESAR E. CHAVEZ

Cesar Estrada Chavez was born near Yuma, Arizona in 1927 on his grandfather's small farm. The depression forced the Chavez family off the farm and into the migrant stream. Cesar, his parents and his brothers and sisters worked in row crops — in grapes, prunes, and traveled throughout the Southwest. They were bitterly poor and migrated from crop to crop and from town to town in order to stay alive. Cesar joined the Navy and served in the South Pacific during World War Two. After the war he married Helen Fabella who he had met in the Delano grape vineyards; the young Chavez settled in the Chicano barrio of SalSi Puedes ("Get out if you can") in San Jose, California.

From 1952 to 1962, Cesar worked with Fred Ross in developing self-determining chapters of the barri-based Community Service Organization (CSO). In 1962 Cesar left his position as National Director of the CSO to begin to build a National Farm Workers Association, which has now become the United Farm Workers of America, AFL-CIO. Helen and Cesar Chavez worked in the fields on weekends to support their eight children as they slowly found those farm workers who were willing to commit themselves to a long and difficult organizing struggle. From 1962 to the present Cesar has lived in voluntary poverty (as President of the UFW his salary is $5 a week) out of conviction. He explained, "How can we who claim to serve farm workers live in comfort when farmworkers in Texas, Florida and Ohio are barely able to feed their own children?"

The Delano grape strike began in 1965 and was finally won after five years of strikes and boycotts. During the course of the struggle Cesar led farmworkers on picket lines into jail cells and on a 350 mile march to the state Capitol in California. In 1966 he fasted for 25 days to rededicate the farmworkers' movement to non-violence.

Cesar Chavez has become a symbol of hope for millions of Americans. His commitment to non-violence and his example of sacrifice and service on behalf of the poor is a challenge to all of us. Basic to his daily work is the conviction, the hope that millions of men and women do care about the suffering of farm workers and will respond to a simple appeal: to boycott.

Cesar summed up the significance of the farmworkers' movement by saying, "For the first time in the history of the richest nation in the world we would give those people who work at producing food some food for themselves."
Dear Friends:

Cesar Chavez, President of the United Farm Workers Union, and one of the leading witnesses for the Church and its nonviolent struggle for social justice, will visit Connecticut at the end of the month.

I would like to call your attention to two events to which you are invited. On Wednesday, July 31, at 7:00 P.M., Cesar will attend Mass at St. Mary's Church on Pembroke Street in Bridgeport. Following the Mass, all are invited to a gathering in the church hall for entertainment and an address by Cesar. This evening is sponsored by the Spanish-Speaking Apostolate of the Diocese.

Also, on Thursday, August 1st, a church-labor luncheon will be held in honor of Cesar at Quinnipiac College in Hamden (see enclosed invitation).

I would like to encourage all of you to attend both of these events, and to make the visit of Cesar Chavez known to all of your friends and parishioners. In this way we can publicly manifest the Church's concern and support for the cause of justice for the Migrant Worker.

Sincerely,

Edward J. Kirchner
Director

EJK:jjb
Enclosure
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Sincerely,

Edward J. Kirchner
Director

Enclosure
To: Clergy and other religious leaders in the Bridgeport area
Re: COMING EVENTS WORTH NOTING

CESAR CHAVEZ COMING TO THE AREA

Cesar Chavez, President of the United Farm Workers, will be in Bridgeport on Wednesday, July 31 to build support for the grape and lettuce boycott. He will show his latest film: "WHY WE BOYCOTT" and share his first-hand struggles to achieve an adequate wage and decent working conditions for the migrant farm workers.

* At St. Mary's Church, Pembroke St., Bpt. (just a few blocks from I-95)
* 7:00 p.m. - Mass with the Spanish Apostolate
* 8:00 p.m. - Rally with the film, singing, and Cesar

PLEASE ANNOUNCE FROM PULPITS AND IN CHURCH BULLETINS

A special Luncheon for Church and Labor Leaders will be held on Thursday, August 1 (12:00-3:00) at Quinnipiac College, Hamden. Cesar Chavez will focus particularly on the struggle between the United Farm Workers and the Teamsters and will pay tribute to the role Churches have played in this movement toward justice.

* Cost of the luncheon - $5.00 per person
* Reservations should be made by sending checks (by July 24) to Farmworker's Luncheon, 1915 Park St., Hartford, 06106

Cesar Chavez is not only the leader of this movement who receives a salary of $5.00 per week, he is also the symbol of hope for millions of Americans as he lives his commitment to non-violence and sacrifice for the poor. He is worth hearing. He is worth hearing about. His being in Bridgeport is an opportunity that probably won't happen again soon.

* * * * * * *

On September 30, from 6:00-9:30 p.m., at Salem Lutheran Church, the Council will hold its FALL ASSEMBLY.

* Dinner
* Displays, booths, and ??? on Council activities
* Speaker: Dr. Ezra Earl Jones, an expert on local church planning, will share his insight into some of the possible futures of the local church
* Worship & celebration of our faith

PLEASE RECORD THIS DATE ON YOUR CHURCH CALENDAR so that key people in your church can be available. In the past few years, these assemblies have been both fun and packed with meaning and this fall promises to be even better.

MORE INFORMATION WILL BE COMING SOON
* * * * * * *

RED CROSS HOME AVAILABLE

Enclosed you will find a card with their new address.

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HOME AVAILABLE

A working couple in Milford would like to share their home with an elderly woman (in good health) to live in as a family member. Contact Mrs. Wells, daytime, at 333-4327.
Dear Sir:

The farm workers in California ask you to join the AFL-CIO, the Catholic Church, the Council of Churches and the Bridgeport Board of Rabbis in boycotting Gallo wines.

In 1967 the Gallo Company signed a contract with the United Farm Workers of America, AFL-CIO. For the first time the workers had a voice, the right to speak up about their jobs without losing them. They also had a medical plan and a better wage, and elected their own members to represent them.

But in 1973, the Gallo Company refused to renew their contract. They fired workers and turned to the Teamsters. Then the workers asked for elections, Gallo refused.

Gallo jailed 68 strikers, went to Court to stop the picketing, and evicted 400 men, women and children from their homes. Teamsters with clubs and armed security guards confronted the strikers.

Some 150 workers - 92% of the work force - went out on strike.

After the violence the Gallo workers voted to stop the picketing and to ask for your help.

Please do not re-order Gallo wines, which includes all wines from Modesto, California. A complete list is enclosed for your information. We will be in touch with you to discuss this further.

Sincerely,

[Signature]

Stephen M. Rivers
Southern Connecticut Co-ordinator
United Farm Workers of America AFL-CIO

Enc.

labor donated
smr/afl-cio
COMPLAINT IS FILED ON EATING OF GRAPES

HARTFORD (UPI) — Two United Farm Workers Union organizers have filed a harassment complaint against a police officer who they say taunted them by "ostentatiously eating bunches of grapes" in their presence.

George Sheridan and William Lemmons, Connecticut coordinators of the UFW grape boycott, Tuesday complained that Officer John Pelletier devoured grapes on several occasions while watching their picket line, even though he was in uniform.

Pelletier arrested the two May 18 for allegedly walking two abreast in violation of the law while picketing an A&P store. The charges were dropped Tuesday.

GROUP PROTESTS LETTUCE SALE

HARTFORD (UPI) — About three dozen demonstrators supporting the United Farm Workers marched outside the Connecticut Regional Market in Hartford early today to protest the sale of boycotted lettuce and grapes.

The regional market is a distribution center where fruit stands, restaurant suppliers and small supermarkets buy produce trucked in from other areas, including California and Florida.

George Sheridan, a spokesman for the farm workers, said the demonstration was part of a nationwide effort to win union contracts including controls on dangerous pesticides and ending child labor.

The demonstration was organized, Sheridan said, to inform store owners of the boycott and to warn them if they persist in selling boycotted grapes and lettuce they can expect pickets outside their stores.
"HAW, HAW! HOW CAN A BUNCH OF PEONS CALL THEMSELVES A UNION?"
Southwest are larger than the entire state of Rhode Island. Thousands of farmworkers, members of the United Farm Workers, are now on strike. They seek to secure safe and sanitary working conditions, a living wage, and the right to union representation. Their success depends on our support, which we can give by boycotting non-UFW iceberg lettuce, table grapes and Gallo wines. The boycott has the support of the entire AFL-CIO, the Catholic Bishops, the Council of Churches, the Synagogue Council of America, as well as local labor and religious leaders across the country.

Please give it your support, too, and help farmworkers secure the same basic rights which all other American workers already have. Si se puede - Yes it can be done.

Stephen M. Rivers
Southern Connecticut Co-ordinator
United Farm Workers of America, Bridgeport
Chavez Backers Map Rally at A&P in Orange

Supporters of Cesar Chavez United Farmworkers, AFL-CIO met at Sacred Heart University last night to discuss plans for a massive rally to be led by Chavez outside the A&P supermarket in Orange on July 31 at 5:30 p.m.

Stephen Rivers, Southern Connecticut Coordinator for the UFW, said he is aiming for a turnout of some 500 people to demonstrate outside the Orange store in support of the UFW boycotts of lettuce, grapes, and Gallo Wines.

Mr. Rivers said many religious, labor, and citizen's groups throughout greater Bridgeport will be conducting mailing campaigns throughout the next couple of weeks urging their respective members to turn out for the demonstration. Among the associations involved in the mailing will be the Young Democrats, the Council of Churches of Greater Bridgeport and the Board of Rabbis.

Mr. Rivers said the Orange store was picked as the site of the rally because of its size and location, approximately 15 minutes away from either Bridgeport or New Haven.

Car pools and other forms of transportation will be arranged for people who cannot provide their own transportation to the demonstration.

Mr. Rivers said that Chavez will also march with Holiday Inn strikers if that strike is not settled by July 31. He said one of the prime goals of the Chavez campaign is to show solidarity with other labor groups throughout the nation and to emphasize that the UFW has similar interests to its brother unions. This is important, Mr. Rivers said, in light of the current conflict between the UFW and the Teamster Union as to which organization represents the majority of farmworkers in California's produce region. Mr. Rivers said Chavez' march with the Holiday Inn strikers will take place sometime in the morning of July 31.
Chavez Backers
Still to Picket
Orange A&P

Plans for a rally and mass picket outside the A&P supermarket in Orange on July 31 by supporters of Cesar Chavez and the United Farmworkers Union, AFL-CIO are proceeding as planned, despite a decision by executives of the eastern division of the A&P chain to refrain from selling non-union produce. Stephen Rivers, Southern Connecticut coordinator for the UFW, announced last night.

Mr. Rivers said the decision will have no effect on A&P markets in Connecticut since the eastern division covers only the stores operating in Maine, New Hampshire, Eastern Massachusetts, and Rhode Island. He added, however, that the UFW in Connecticut would welcome a similar decision by officers of the Springfield division which covers stores operating in Connecticut, Western Massachusetts and parts of New York state.

Such a decision by A&P's Springfield division would likely throw a damper on the Orange demonstration, which the UFW estimates to attract 500 supporters and in which Chavez himself is scheduled to take part.

Mr. Rivers said the UFW will "wait and see" how the Springfield division will react to the eastern decision, but will, in the meantime, proceed with the demonstration in Orange as planned.

Religious groups, including the Bridgeport Council of Churches and the Ministry for Social Justice, as well as Catholic groups, met Tuesday evening at St. Luke's Episcopal church here to iron-out the final details for organizing the demonstration. A major item on the agenda was a telephone follow-up of a mailing sent out among their respective members and parishioners urging support of Chavez' Farmworkers and requesting their presence at the demonstration.